

# COUNTY OF SUFFOLK



**STEVEN BELLONE**  
SUFFOLK COUNTY EXECUTIVE

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

**JAMES L. TOMARKEN, MD, MPH, MBA, MSW**  
Commissioner

Dear Parents and Staff,

December 29, 2014

The purpose of this informational letter is to notify you that there was a case of Mumps at the Smithtown High School East and to ask you to take certain precautions in case you or your child develop symptoms of Mumps as described below. Please note that: **Since school is not in session, there is no current risk to public health from this case.**

General information about Mumps:

Due to the success of routine childhood immunizations given to protect against mumps (the Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR) vaccine), Mumps and its complications are now rarely seen in the US.

The symptoms of Mumps may include fever, headache, muscle aches, fatigue, loss of appetite and swollen, tender salivary glands under the ears or jaw on one or both sides of the face. Other less common complications can include swelling of the testicles, ovaries and/or breasts, and meningitis.

Mumps is usually spread by mucus or droplets from the nose or throat from an infected person, when the infected person coughs or sneezes. Mumps can also spread through surfaces that have come in contact with these infected droplets.

What you or your child need to do if your child develops symptoms of Mumps:

If you or your child has developed symptoms consistent with Mumps as listed above, it is important to contact your physician and notify her/him that you suspect you or your child have Mumps. **Be sure to call your physician before visiting her/his office to ensure control measures are in place so your physician's staff and patients are not exposed to Mumps.**

**Your physician may advise you to stay home for 5 days after the onset of salivary gland swelling, at which point Mumps is no longer considered to be infectious.**

**Your physician should notify the Suffolk County Department of Health Services, Division of Public Health at 631-854-0333 as soon as possible if he/she expects you or your child have mumps.**

This will enable the Suffolk County Department of Health Services to assist your physician with guidance as to the current recommendations for Mumps laboratory testing and facilitate this testing at the New York State Public Health Laboratory in Albany.

For additional information regarding Mumps see the Centers for Disease Prevention and Control website at: [www.cdc.gov/mumps](http://www.cdc.gov/mumps) or call the Suffolk County Department of Health Services at 631-854-0333 between 8:30am and 5pm Monday to Friday.

Sincerely,  
Shaheda Iftikhar  
Director of Public Health



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